

# NEWS & ALERTS FROM THE SMART GRID INTEROPERABILITY PANEL (SGIP)

Thursday, October 25, 2012

## **Reminder: Plenary Meets Tomorrow at 1p.m. Eastern**

The SGIP Plenary Meeting will be held this Friday, October 26th from 1pm to 3pm Eastern.

**TO REGISTER:** <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/444978162>. Attendance is mandatory for Participating Member organizations as it pertains to voting rights (learn more at <http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid/bin/view/SmartGrid/SGIPVotingGuide>).

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## **Governing Board Establishes New Priority Action Plan and Reviews Progress in Key Areas**

At its October 18 virtual meeting, the Governing Board of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) approved the creation of a new Priority Action Plan (PAP) on Weather Information, and it began Catalog of Standards consideration of a standard for building automation and control networks. In addition, the Board reviewed recent progress in SGIP's transition from a federally funded organization to "SGIP 2.0," an industry-financed legal entity that retains a working partnership with government. (For more information, go to [sgip.org](http://sgip.org).) Finally, the Board received reports from 14 standing committees and working groups.

### **New PAP Established on Weather Information**

Multiple standards-setting organizations (SSOs) are currently working on models for weather information. Within the SGIP, a number of groups have identified the need to develop a unified modeling approach and/or a well-defined weather information model development ecosystem to ensure consistency and mappings. These groups believe that SGIP, with its broad stakeholder representation from key communities (including renewable/DER, distribution utility, and ISO/RTO), could play a constructive role in coordinating the co-development of these weather information models and ensuring interoperability.

Therefore, after receiving and discussing a proposal on the subject, the Governing Board voted to establish PAP-21: Weather Information. The new PAP will:

- Identify and document weather model efforts and standards under development;
- Coordinate and collect Smart Grid weather use cases and develop additional use cases where needed;
- Draft a white paper on weather information model requirements that will address the needs identified by the use cases; and
- Provide SGIP requirements on weather information to SSOs and coordinate harmonization to ensure that developed weather data standards will be interoperable.

### **BACnet Standard Considered for Catalog of Standards**

The Catalog of Standards process, which is used to thoroughly review and document the standards under consideration, is nearing completion for another standard: ASHRAE 135-2010, BACnet—A Data Communication Protocol for Building Automation and Control Networks. BACnet has been designed specifically to meet the communication needs of building automation and control systems for applications such as heating, ventilating, lighting control, access control, and fire detection systems. The BACnet protocol provides mechanisms by which computerized equipment of arbitrary function may exchange information, regardless of the particular building service it performs. This standard—which is currently a national standard in more than 30 countries, including

the United States—allows building owners and operators to achieve interoperability.

At its October 18 meeting, the Governing Board began consideration of the standard. In the coming days, the Board will vote by electronic ballot on whether to recommend this standard for inclusion in the Catalog of Standards. The standard will then be submitted in November to the full SGIP membership for a final vote.

The Catalog of Standards currently includes 39 standards or standards components. Another 10 standards are nearing completion of the review process and will be presented to the Governing Board at its December meeting. It is anticipated that the catalog will eventually contain hundreds of these consensus documents.

## **Significant Progress Reported on Transition to SGIP 2.0**

The Governing Board heard a report from Paul Molitor, Transition Manager, who outlined recent progress in implementing the business sustainment plan. The goal in the coming months is “to transition the SGIP to a self-sustaining entity as smoothly as possible while preserving the mission, values, and spirit of the unique organization our members have created.”

The Transition Manager reported the following:

- The work of all SGIP committees, working groups, and PAPs will be transferred to corresponding groups in SGIP 2.0 in January 2013. The mapping between the two organizations has now been completed.
- SGIP groups, such as the four Standing Committees and the Domain Expert Working Groups (DEWGs), have submitted their resource needs for 2013. This is the first step in a five-step budgeting process under way to prioritize all SGIP activities as a 2013 budget is assembled.
- The new organization’s website ([SGIP.org](http://SGIP.org)) is now online, and it includes information about the membership campaign launched on October 12. All 1,900 members of the SGIP were sent an e-mail inviting their organizations to become founding members of SGIP 2.0.
- The position description for SGIP 2.0’s Executive Director is in the process of being finalized, and it will be posted on the website very soon.

The transition to the new SGIP 2.0 organization will reach an important milestone at the SGIP Winter Face-to-Face Meeting at the Grid Interop conference in December, when a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be signed between SGIP 2.0 and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST, which funds the SGIP Administrator through a contract, will remain an active participant in SGIP 2.0. In order to ensure a smooth transition, NIST will continue to fund the SGIP Administrator through the SGIP Face-to-Face meeting in March 2013.

## **Progress Reports**

The Governing Board heard reports from the four standing committees and from eight working groups. The chair of each group outlined their group’s accomplishments-to-date, 2012 closeout plans, 2013 plans, and 2013 resource requests. The Board also received an update from the International Task Force and the Tiger Team on Balance of Voting. Details about each report are available online.

## **Additional information about the Governing Board’s October meeting is available**

online(<http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid/bin/view/SmartGrid/SGIPGBMeetingsAndMinutes>).

Contact SGIP Leadership and Administrator at [sgipgb.administrator@enernex.com](mailto:sgipgb.administrator@enernex.com)

EnerNex serves as the SGIP Administrator under a NIST-awarded contract. For more information, [click here](#).

To manage your email subscriptions to any of the SGIP listservs including this one, please visit [smartgridlistserv.org](http://smartgridlistserv.org).